

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/594,909
Filing Date	September 29, 2006
First Named Inventor	Motoyasu Nagano et al.
Art Unit	3742
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	MAT-8911US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,834,732	11-10-1998	Innami et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 10-109163 A (with English abstract)	04-28-1998	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 59-202176 A (with English abstract)	11-15-1984	Kobe Steel Ltd.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 11-058016 A (with English abstract)	03-02-1999	Daihen Corp.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Supplementary European Search Report for Application No. EP 06 72 9011	03-31-2009	Panasonic Corporation		<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner
Signature

/Ket Dang/

Date
Considered

11/14/2009

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.

³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /K.D./